Accelerating the SDG’s in the New York Metropolitan Region

Tom Wright
President & CEO

Regional Plan Association
SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 11
Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable
Since 1922, Regional Plan Association has prepared long-range plans for the tri-state metropolitan region.
3 States
31 Counties
782 Cities and Towns
23 Million Residents
Three Regional Plans

1929
First Regional Plan

1968
Second Regional Plan

1996
Third Regional Plan
The Fourth Regional Plan

rpa.org/fourth-plan
Fix the institutions that are failing us

Rise to the challenge of climate change

Create a dynamic, customer-oriented transportation system

Make the region affordable for everyone
Fix the institutions that are failing us

- Put a price on driving, through congestion pricing, tolling and eventually VMT fees
- Reform our regional transportation authorities and reduce the costs of building new transit projects
- Price GHG emissions using California’s comprehensive approach
- Establish a Regional Coastal Commission and state adaptation funds
- Increase civic engagement and make planning and development more inclusive, predictable and efficient
Congestion Pricing

- Triboro Bridge and Tunnel Authority in charge
- MOU with NYCDOT
- Implementation no sooner than 1/1/21
- $15B
- 80% to NYC subways and buses, 20% to commuter rail
- Exemptions/credits
Rise to the challenge of climate change

- Establish a National Park in the Meadowlands
- Protect places where the densities justify it; transition away from lower-density places or places at particularly high risk
- Create a modern, smarter, greener energy grid
Transform the Meadowlands into a National Park
Make the region affordable for everyone

- Create a million additional new homes (beyond base case) mostly in transit-accessible locations, and across a range of price points
- Create well-paying job opportunities throughout the region
- Turn environmentally burdened neighborhoods into healthy communities
We can create a half million new homes without any new construction.
Create a dynamic, customer-oriented transportation system

- Expand Trans-Hudson capacity and expand regional connectivity with a unified, integrated, expanded regional rail
- Totally reconstruct and modernize the subway within 15 years
- Design streets for people & open up more public space in the urban core
- Expand and redesign Kennedy and Newark airports to increase capacity
Expanded system comfortably serves 1 million more people by 2040.